



Arkansas Basin Roundtable

PLANNING OUR
WATER FUTURE

ROUNDTABLE MEETING NOTES

November 11, 2020, Veterans Day

GoToMeeting Link: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/631824957>

More information and presentations may be found at: www.arkansasbasin.com

Roundtable Business

Mark Shea called the meeting to order at 12:34 pm. Mark recognized veterans and members of the military and expressed our collective appreciation for their service to our country. Members and visitors introduced themselves. Twenty-five (25) members were present. The agenda is abbreviated today to provide ample time for grant presentations.

Public Comment - none

Mike Weber asked about the prior month's meeting notes, and the definition of active vs. inactive status according to the bylaws. Voting members fall into 'inactive' status if they miss (unexcused) three meetings in a year or two consecutive meetings. The bylaws do not lay out how a member regains 'active' status, but for last month's annual meeting it was assumed that the year referred to is the last twelve months, rolling forward each month. Remember that all members retain their voting status, active and inactive. The 'active' status is used to define a quorum for voting purposes.

REPORTS:

Executive Committee – Mark Shea

The executive committee met briefly this morning. Talked about the PEPO Coordinator position and re-forming a PEPO committee. The rest of the meeting will be devoted to grant applications and requests for letters of support.

GRANT APPLICATIONS

Colorado Airborne Snow Observatories Expansion Plan – Lurna Kaatz, Northern Water

Proposed Funding

In-Kind Contributions: \$44,000

State WSRF Funds: \$20,000

Colorado WSRF: \$5,000

South Platte WSRF: \$5,000

Metro WSRF: \$5,000

Gunnison WSRF: \$5,000

Arkansas WSRF: \$5,000

ASO technology uses planes that fly over Colorado mountains and measure depth of snow pack. This new technology is more accurate than SNOTEL, the snow telemetry technology used by NRCS.

Project Goal: Develop and communicate a roadmap for creating a phased and sustainable ASO flight program in Colorado that would benefit multiple basins and a diverse group of water stakeholders.

This grant application moved forward by consensus.



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Regulation 84 Edible Crop Irrigation Public Education and Outreach – Independence Water & Sanitation District

– David Takeda

Proposed Funding

Grantee Match: \$8,000

In-Kind Contributions: \$16,000

South Platte WSRF: \$5,000

Metro WSRF: \$5,000

Arkansas WSRF: \$5,000

Statewide WSRF: \$15,000

Water Plan Grant Fund: \$27,600

Total Project Cost: \$81,600

Project Purpose:

- Potential users (local farms, community gardens, schools) do not have expertise and resources to develop educational and training materials regarding Reg 84.
- This project will develop educational and training materials that satisfy CDPHE requirements.
- Can be used by any utility or user.
- Removes barriers to expanding reuse in Colorado.

Roundtable members asked questions regarding this grant request. Consensus was **not** reached for this grant application. Members with dissenting opinions were encouraged to submit those comments to Abby Ortega, who will forward them to David.

REQUESTS FOR LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Purgatoire River Baca-Picketwire Diversion Dam Complex Restoration Project – Purgatoire Watershed

Partnership – Julie Knudson

The grant application is for the US Bureau of Reclamation's WaterSMART Cooperative Watershed Management Program Phase II. The grant app is due November 17th. 11 project partners are involved in the project, which address multiple concerns, including:

- Protection and stabilization of stream and riverbanks
- Reducing erosion
- Improving channel/floodplain connectivity
- Improving water delivery systems to increase efficiency and address water supply needs
- Providing fish passage
- Removing invasive species and restoring vegetative

This request for a letter of support was approved by consensus.

Watershed Resiliency Planning Process & CWCB Watershed Restoration Grant Program – Upper Arkansas

Watershed Partnership – Dan Omasta & Natalie Ollio

The partnership was formed in May 2020, with goals to:

- Enhance collaboration among partners, water users, governments, and stakeholders to increase watershed resiliency



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- Tackle challenges of “duplication” and funding competition
- Support multi-beneficial projects that improve water quality and quantity, ecosystem health, community values, and agricultural heritage in Upper Arkansas Basin

Objectives of Phase 1

- Increase community understanding of water issues and promote collaboration among water users and stakeholders.
- Combine & assess existing studies and data related to ecosystem health, hydrology, water use, land use planning, organization priorities.
- Assess existing floodplain condition and explore strategies to incorporate fluvial hazard mapping and riparian condition into land use planning.
- Engage and support agricultural producers through preliminary needs assessment and protection of water rights.

This request for a letter of support was approved by consensus.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.

Admin Email: ARKBASINRT@GMAIL.COM

MEETINGS/LINKS: (all meetings in 2020 will be virtual)

- Arkansas Basin Roundtable Meeting: December 9, 12:30 pm www.arkansasbasin.com
- PEPO: www.pepoarkbasin.com
- Arkansas River Basin Water Forum: <http://www.arbwf.org/>
- CWCB: <http://cwcb.state.co.us/Pages/CWCBHome.aspx>
- Colorado Water Plan: <http://coloradowaterplan.com/>
- Colorado Flood Threat Bulletin: www.coloradofloodthreat.com
- Stream Management Plan Resource Library: <https://coloradosmp.org/>
- In-Stream Flow Rule Revisions: <https://cwcb.colorado.gov/instream-flow-rules-revisions-hb-20-1157>
- DARCA - <https://www.darca.org/>